



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday
February 28,
2022

DAILY REPORT

21st
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 22nd Legislative Day on Tuesday, March 1 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 10 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Motions to Insist

SB 120 Solicitors-General of State Courts; honorary office of solicitor-general emeritus; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 120, the 'Ethics in Government Act of 2021,' revises Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Code. Definitions are provided to clarify terms already in the chapter. Restrictions on the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission's authority to require additional reporting information are limited to campaign disclosure reports and personal financial statements. The ability for commission staff attorneys to initiate complaints and the commission's ability to initiate investigations based on such complaints are clarified.

No current or former members of the General Assembly shall be eligible to qualify for reelection until and unless all fines and fees owing to the commission have been paid, all disclosure reports due have been filed, and all outstanding taxes have been paid.

Deadlines for the commencement of actions by the commission for alleged violations are specified to coincide with the term of office and the occurrence of the violation, as opposed to the filing of a report containing such violation. Retention periods for accounts maintained by a candidate or treasurer of a campaign committee are clarified. Provisions regarding the allowable disposition of contributions are amended to include the transfer of contributions to political action committees.

The bill makes clear that a candidate may not utilize campaign funds for the purpose of making loans or investments directly to: the candidate; a member of the candidate's family; any business in which the candidate or a member of the candidate's family has an ownership interest; the candidate's trust or a trust of a member of the candidate's family; or any non-profit organization of which the candidate or a member of the candidate's family is on the payroll or has a controlling interest.

Updates of contribution limits by the commission will now be made after each gubernatorial election cycle, instead of each and every election cycle. The bill specifies when a candidate shall be deemed to have advanced to a subsequent election to clarify when the candidate may access contributions made for the subsequent election.

Public officers who have filed a financial disclosure statement within the previous year are exempted from having to submit an affidavit confirming that they took no official action in the previous calendar year that had a material effect on their private financial or business interests. Candidates seeking election as a public officer are now subject to the same requirement to file financial disclosure statements as the incumbent officers. Financial disclosure statements for candidates of statewide elected office shall be accompanied by a financial statement of the candidate's financial affairs for the five calendar years prior to the year that the election is held. The financial disclosure statements must also include the source or sources of the candidate's income.

Finally, the bill clarifies that lobbyists must file supplemental registration prior to any substantial or material change or addition in their registration.

Authored By: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Insist: (A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)

Rules Calendar

HB 1056 Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund; authority to make alternative investments; repeal certain restrictions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1056 allows the Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund to invest up to 15 percent of the fund's total assets in alternative investments. The fund's current limit on alternative investments is 10 percent. This bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Authored By: Rep. Dewayne Hill (3rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
House Committee: Retirement **Committee Action:** 02-08-2022 Do Pass
Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 1064 Income tax; certain retirement income for military service; provide exemption

Bill Summary: House Bill 1064 amends O.C.G.A. 48-7-27, relating to the computation of taxable net income, by adding an income tax exemption of up to \$17,500 of military retirement income for individuals less than 62 years of age and an additional exemption of \$17,500 for individuals less than 62 years of age who have at least \$17,500 of earned income.

Authored By: Rep. Jesse Petrea (166th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
House Committee: Ways & Means **Committee Action:** 02-17-2022 Do Pass
Floor Vote: Yeas: 161 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 1182 Local government; disposition of property acquired for lake projects do not apply if any portion of such lake was constructed; provide provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 1182 provides that specified provisions do not apply to the county sale of property that contains any portion of a lake that was constructed.

Authored By: Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
House Committee: Governmental Affairs **Committee Action:** 02-09-2022 Do Pass
Floor Vote: Yeas: 152 Nays: 10 **Amendments:**

HB 1219 Georgia Board of Dentistry; revise composition

Bill Summary: House Bill 1219 increases the number of members of the Georgia Board of Dentistry from 11 to 17. The number of members who are dentists increases from nine to 13 and the number of members who are dental hygienists increases from one to two. The bill also adds a member who has direct knowledge of the education of dental students in this state appointed by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Authored By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
House Committee: Health & Human Services **Committee Action:** 02-15-2022 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 1271 Property; covenants which infringe upon owners' right to display United States and Georgia flags; prohibit

Bill Summary: House Bill 1271 prohibits a property owners' association from enacting covenants after July 1, 2022 that forbid a lot owner from displaying the official flag of the United States of

America through use of an attachment to the structure of a building. The bill applies to flags that are four and one-half feet by six feet or smaller.

Authored By: Rep. James Burchett (176th)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 160 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-10-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

HB 1274 State government; antisemitism; provide definition

Bill Summary: House Bill 1274 provides a definition of "antisemitism" for purposes of state law. The bill uses the definition adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, which defines "antisemitism" as the harassment of a person of actual or perceived Jewish origin, ancestry, ethnicity, or faith. State departments and agencies shall consider antisemitism as evidence of discriminatory intent for any law that prohibits discrimination or under any hate crimes provision. The bill does not diminish any rights protected under the First Amendment.

Authored By: Rep. John Carson (46th)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 141 Nays: 19

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-10-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

HB 1288 State Employees' Assurance Department; assignment of certain group term life insurance benefits; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1288 provides for the assignment of certain group-term life insurance benefits to pay for funeral services of a deceased individual who was a member of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia, Georgia Legislative Retirement System, or Georgia Judicial Retirement System.

Authored By: Rep. Darlene Taylor (173rd)
House Insurance
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-16-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

HB 1294 Property; timing of sending notice when an abandoned mobile home has been determined to be derelict; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1294 provides landowners three days to send notice, rather than same-day notice, to all responsible parties upon a determination by a local government agent that an abandoned mobile home is derelict.

Authored By: Rep. John Corbett (174th)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-15-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

HB 1308 Insurance; allow plan sponsor to consent on behalf of an enrollee to electronic delivery of all communication

Bill Summary: House Bill 1308 allows a sponsor of a health benefit plan to consent on behalf of an enrollee to the electronic delivery of all communications and identification cards related to the plan. Enrollees can opt out of electronic communications.

Authored By: Rep. Noel Williams (148th)
House Insurance
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 161 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-16-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

HB 1346 Courts; clerks of superior courts; provide for construction

Bill Summary: House Bill 1346 permits clerks of superior courts, who would otherwise be prohibited from practicing law in his/her name, to serve as a judge advocate or any other role in an

active duty or reserve component of the armed forces.

Authored By: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 162 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-16-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

Postponed Until Next Legislative Day

HB 389 Employment security; change definition of employment to include services performed by an individual for wages

Bill Summary: House Bill 389 codifies existing case law to determine whether work classifies a person as an employee or an independent contractor. Further, the bill provides for an enforcement mechanism, which adds a civil penalty paid to the Department of Labor when an employer misclassifies its employees. Fines for companies with less than 100 employees are capped at \$2,500 for each misclassified employee, while fines for companies with 100 or more employees are capped at \$7,500 for each misclassified employee.

The bill states that employment does not include services performed by or facilitated through a network company, so long as the network company has a written contract with the individual that expressly states that the network company shall not unilaterally prescribe specific dates, times, or a minimum number of hours that an individual is required to be logged onto the network company's application. To apply, the contract must not be terminated by the network company if a person does not: accept a specific delivery or transportation request; restrict an individual from performing transportation or delivery services through other network companies; and contractually restrict an individual from working in any other lawful occupation or business. The bill defines "ride share network service" and "network company."

Authored By: Rep. Todd Jones (25th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

HB 961 Torts; authorize apportionment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits; provide for evidence of fault of nonparties

Bill Summary: House Bill 961 amends Code Section 51-12-33 to authorize apportionment of damages in single-defendant lawsuits rather than solely in multi-defendant lawsuits. In lawsuits against one or more defendants, following a reduction of damages attributed to the plaintiff's percentage of fault, the damages shall be apportioned to the liable person or persons according to each person's percentage of fault.

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Efstrotation (104th)

Rule Applied: Structured

Local Calendar

SB 522 Board of Education of Harris County; description of the education districts; change

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 522 changes the description of the Harris County Board of Education's districts.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 139 Nays: 8

Rule Applied:
Committee 02-25-2022 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 22nd Legislative Day, Tuesday, March 1, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Tuesday, March 1, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 23rd Legislative Day.

HB 974 Property; deeds; require electronic filing

Bill Summary: House Bill 974 requires recorded instruments, such as deeds, mortgages, liens, maps/plats, and state tax executions, to be filed electronically or delivered in person to the clerk of the superior court. The clerk shall make available a public computer terminal for electronic filing access. In addition, when filing, an incorrect or missing tax parcel identification number on a recorded instrument shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the instrument. Finally, a deed to secure debt must include the following items on the first page: date, names of signatories, mailing address, map/parcel identification information, original loan amount/outstanding principal amount, initial debt maturity date, and amount of intangible recording tax or citation for a tax exemption.

Authorized By: Rep. Joseph Gullett (19th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-16-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

HB 1009 Motor vehicles; use of personal delivery devices to transport cargo; authorize

Bill Summary: House Bill 1009 provides definitions and operation guidelines for personal delivery devices. The bill prohibits local authorities from enacting ordinances regarding personal delivery devices under specified conditions.

Authorized By: Rep. Todd Jones (25th)
House Motor Vehicles
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-23-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

HB 1188 Criminal procedure; each act of child molestation charged as a separate offense; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1188 revises the crimes of "child molestation" and "sexual exploitation of children" to specify that each individual violation of the crimes can be charged as its own count in a charging document.

Authorized By: Rep. Jodi Lott (122nd)
House Judiciary Non-Civil
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-16-2022 Do Pass
Action:

HB 1194 Motor vehicles; federal regulations regarding safe operation of commercial motor vehicles and carriers; update reference date

Bill Summary: House Bill 1194 is the annual update to the 'Uniform Carriers Act.' It updates the effective date from January 1, 2021, to January 1, 2022, to comply with federal law.

Authorized By: Rep. Clint Crowe (110th)
House Motor Vehicles
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-15-2022 Do Pass
Action:

HB 1292 Education; prohibit students who participate in 4-H sponsored activities or programs from being counted as absent from school

Bill Summary: House Bill 1292 prohibits students who participate in 4-H sponsored activities or programs from being counted as absent from school. The school principal or their designee may request documentation, as proof, from a 4-H representative.

Authorized By: Rep. Rick Jasperse (11th)
House Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-23-2022 Do Pass
Action:

HB 1302 Income tax; one-time tax credit for taxpayers who filed returns for both 2020 and 2021 taxable years; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1302 adds 48-7-20.1, relating to income taxes, which provides a one-time income tax refund equal to the lesser of the taxpayer's 2020 income tax liability or \$250 for a taxpayer filing as single, \$375 for a taxpayer filing as head of household, or \$500 for a married couple filing a joint return. The refund is not available for non-resident alien individuals, individuals who were claimed as a dependent for the 2020 or 2021 tax years, nor estates or trusts. The refund is automatically credited once a taxpayer files an individual income tax return for 2021, and any refunds due shall be credited against outstanding income tax liability prior to being either electronically transmitted or sent by check to the taxpayer.

Authored By: Rep. Josh Bonner (72nd)
House Ways & Means
Committee:

Rule Applied: Structured
Committee 02-24-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

HB 1303 Education; transition a pilot program for elementary agricultural education to an ongoing program

Bill Summary: House Bill 1303 revises O.C.G.A. 20-2-154.3 relating to a pilot program for agricultural education in elementary schools to transition the pilot to an ongoing program. The Department of Education will provide a program evaluation to the House and Senate related committees by December 31, 2022.

Authored By: Rep. Robert Dickey (140th)
House Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-23-2022 Do Pass
Action:

HR 732 Local government; date temporary loans are payable from end of calendar year to fiscal year; change - CA

Bill Summary: House Resolution 732 proposes an amendment to the Georgia Constitution to change the payable date of temporary loans for counties and municipalities from December 31 of each year to within 12 months of the initial funding.

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Martin (49th)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Open
Committee 02-23-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Judiciary Committee

HB 1383 Fair Employment Practices Act of 1978; hearing before an administrative law judge; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 1383 concerns the Commission on Equal Opportunity and provides a framework for administrative hearings with the commission. The position of hearing officer is created, defined as an administrative law judge of the Office of State Administrative Hearings or, if that office is a respondent, a special master selected by the governor. The hearing officer will be the recipient of complaints rather than a special master. Additionally, processes are added to the bill. If the administrator is unable to complete the investigation within 90 days of filing, the administrator shall notify the parties of the reasons for failing to complete the investigation. The administrator shall also issue status reports every 60 days following that initial 90-day period.

Authored By: Rep. Michael Wilensky (79th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 02-28-2022 Do Pass
Action:

HB 1396 Georgia Municipal Court Clerks' Council; create

Bill Summary: House Bill 1396 creates the Georgia Municipal Court Clerks' Council as an institution designed to improve municipal courts, assist municipal court staff, and assist in training municipal court staff. The council is a state agency and is composed of the municipal court staff of all municipal courts in the state. The council is authorized to elect officers and an executive committee.

Authored By: Rep. Bill Yearta (152nd)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 02-28-2022 Do Pass
Action:

Ways & Means Committee

HR 594 County and municipal governing authorities; grant temporary tax relief to properties severely damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster and located within a nationally declared disaster area; provide - CA

Bill Summary: House Resolution 594 amends Article VII, Section I of the Constitution by authorizing the governing authority of each county, municipality, and consolidated government and the board of education of each independent and county school system in this state to grant temporary tax relief to properties that are severely damaged or destroyed as a result of a natural disaster and that are located within a nationally declared disaster area. The resolution also includes the required ballot language to ratify this amendment.

Authored By: Rep. Lynn Smith (70th)
House Ways & Means
Committee:

Committee 02-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Committee Meeting Schedule

*This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change.
To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit www.house.ga.gov and click on [Meetings Calendar](#).*

Tuesday - March 1, 2022

8:00 AM	SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
8:00 AM	MOTOR VEHICLES COMMITTEE	606 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
8:00 AM	CANCELED Energy Utilities, & Telecommunications EV Charging Subcommittee	406 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
9:00 AM	RULES COMMITTEE	341 CAP	VIDEO	Agenda
10:00 AM	FLOOR SESSION (LD 22)	House Chamber	VIDEO	
1:00 PM	Insurance Property & Casualty Subcommittee	606 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
1:30 PM	Ways & Means Subcommittee	403 CAP HYBRID	VIDEO	
1:30 PM	Insurance Life & Health Subcommittee	606 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
2:00 PM	REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE	506 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
2:00 PM	HOUSE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE	606 CLOB HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
3:00 PM	ENERGY, UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE	403 CAP HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda
3:00 PM	Judiciary Non-Civil Smith Subcommittee	132 CAP HYBRID	VIDEO	Agenda